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Current Literature: Titles and Abstracts

Catholic Physicians' Guilds

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Current Literature:

Titles and Abstracts



Material appearing in this column is thought to be of particular interest to the Catholic physician because of its moral, religious, or philosophic content. The medical literature constitutes the primary but not the sole source of such material. In general, abstracts are intended to reflect the substance of the original article. Parenthetical editorial comment may follow the abstract if considered desirable. Books are reviewed rather than summarized. Contributions and comments from readers are invited.

Fox, Sir Theodore: Purposes of medicine. *Lancet* 2:801-805 Oct. 23, 1965.

In the face of the rapid advance of medicine it is appropriate to re-examine its purposes. Are physicians servants of science? of the race? of people? of nature? In the final analysis, they are bound by the "traditional obligation towards the patient — any patient."

"... The doctor has learnt more about disease, and must go on learning; but he is, and must always be, a human being devoted first to human beings. ... For a person or a profession, to restore and help one's neighbor may be no small task. But the purpose is not a small one; nor is the privilege."

Levin, M.: The physician and the sexual revolution. *New Eng. J. Med.* 273: 1366-1369 Dec. 16, 1965.

Although sexual and marital maladjustment constitute a major health problem, the medical profession has lagged notably in the field of sex education. To be sound, such education must begin in childhood. Scientific data supporting the "new morality" of sex freedom are largely unreliable. Mutual respect is essential to a happy marriage and is not fostered by premarital relations. In lower animals sex serves the sole purpose of procrea-

tion, but in man it has an additional psychologic purpose — to promote the emotional growth of husband and wife.

"A divine magnetism brings a young man and woman together. Life works its magic, and in selfless love and devotion they join hands as man and wife. They become as one. The heavenly dreams of their courtship materialize into living reality. Is it fair to teach youngsters a debased conception of sex that will deprive them of the richest experience of life?"

THE DYING PATIENT, terminal illness, telling the truth to patients with incurable disease — these topics continue to appear in the literature, suggesting again that the final word is a long way off. A representative collection of recent articles includes the following:

Rhoads, P. S.: Management of the patient with terminal illness. *J.A.M.A.* 192:661-665 May 24, 1965.

Regan, P. F.: The dying patient and his family. *J.A.M.A.* 192:666-667 May 24, 1965.

(Editorial): Body and Soul. *J.A.M.A.* 192:711 May 24, 1965 (editorial comment on preceding two papers).

—: Seven life-or-death dilemmas. *Med. Economics* 42:73-105 July 12, 1965.

- Spector, B.: A doctor's dilemma. *J.A.M.A.* 194:174-176 Oct. 11, 1965.
- (Editorial): Euthanasia. *Massachusetts Physician* 23:218 June-July 1965.
- (Editorial): On being chary with prognoses of life expectancy. *Pharos of A.O.A.* 27:81-82 July 1964.
- : Prolonging of life: science creates moral problems. *Med. Tribune* 6:13 Dec. 18, 1965.
- Kendall, H. J.: Handling the family in a terminal case. *Med. Economics* 42:78-85 March 8, 1965.
- Bixby, E. W., Jr.: The necessary end. (correspondence) *J.A.M.A.* 194:935 Nov. 22, 1965.
- Fishbein, M.: What priority for human life? (Editorial) *Med. World News* 6:224 Dec. 3, 1965.
- Frankenthal, K.: The right to die. (correspondence) *Med. Tribune* 6:15 Nov. 29, 1965.
- : Heroic steps for terminal patients not favored; feelings among many physicians are to uphold death with dignity and a minimum of suffering. *Med. Tribune* 5:15 July 25, 1964.
- : Reactions to death in medicine: MDs give views. Most experience sense of grief at the loss of a patient but stress that physicians must remain detached. *Med. Tribune* 5:9 July 25, 1964.
- Becker, M. H. and Hyman, G. A.: Management of Hodgkin's disease co-existent with pregnancy. *Radiol.* 85:725-728 Oct. 1965.
- Neither the course of pregnancy nor the condition of the fetus is influenced by Hodgkin's disease in the mother, and the course of Hodgkin's disease is not influenced by pregnancy. Therapeutic abortion need be considered only in cases where the fetus would be endangered by direct irradiation or where widespread disease requires systemic chemotherapy during the first trimester.
- (Cf. also: C. G. Miller, L. F. and Miller, D. G.: Malignant lymphomas. *CA* 15:198-213 Sept. Oct. 1965, in which the effect of pregnancy is considered to be deleterious in some cases of Hodgkin's disease and pregnancy is advised against until a reasonable period of inactivity of the disease has elapsed.)
- Rosvoll, R. and Winship, T.: Thyroid carcinoma and pregnancy. *Surg. Gynec. & Obst.* 121:1039-1042 Nov. 1965.
- In order to determine the influence of pregnancy on thyroid carcinoma, a study was made of 60 women who had thyroid carcinoma in childhood and later became pregnant. It was concluded that (1) pregnancy does not influence thyroid carcinoma, and (2) the presence of thyroid carcinoma, or a history of the same, is not an indication for therapeutic abortion.
- ADVANCE in organ transplantation render especially timely a symposium sponsored by the Catholic Physicians' Council of the Philippines, held July 28, 1965. The main addresses have been printed as follows:
- Cuyegkeng, J.: The scientific use of cadavers: medical aspects. *Med. Forum* 8:192 July-Sept. 1965.
- Garcia, E. (C.M.): The scientific use of cadavers: the moral aspect. *Med. Forum* 8:193-197 July-Sept. 1965.
- Rock, J.: Let's be honest about the pill! *J.A.M.A.* 192:401-402 May 3, 1965.
- Much misinformation has been current about the so-called contraceptive pill, and has been disseminated for the obvious purpose of dissuading patients using such medication. Two tactics are employed by the dissuaders. One approach is based on moral grounds and contends, incorrectly, that the pill's mode of action is not as an antagonist, or that it is abortifacient, or that it establishes a chemical blockade of spermatozoa. The second approach is to create fear of physical danger to the wife or fetus as a result of taking the pill, but such hazards have not been proven. Since child-spacing is a serious matter, "I would therefore be irresponsible, and uninformed or poorly informed zealots, however well-intentioned, to cease their presumptuous intimidation of conscientious parents by wishful speculation. . . ."
- Called by whatever name — human experimentation, drug trials, or clinical investigation — the use of man as the ultimate experimental animal continues to pose problems for the physician. Burgeoning medical research has produced an increased need for such studies but the facts brought forward during the Nuremberg trials and after the thalidomide debacle have emphasized that the ethical implications are enormous. Nor is the debate confined to the medical literature. The experiments on cancer immunity conducted under the aegis of the Sloan-Kettering Institute in New York, revolving around the issue of informed consent, were discussed in detail in the February 3, 1964 issue of *Newsweek*. *The Wall Street Journal*, too, has probed the problem at some length. It is interesting to note that virtually all the voices raised (at least publicly) in this debate have been those of scientists rather than moralists, a somewhat anomalous situation that need not continue. The following is a brief sampler, categorized for convenience, of some recent contributions to this subject:
- A. lay literature:
- : Experimental ethics. *Newsweek* p. 48 Feb. 3, 1964.
- : Ethics, risks of experimentation on human patients cause increasing concern in the medical profession. *Wall St. J.* Aug. 31, 1964.
- B. codes:
- (Editorial): Declaration of Helsinki. *New Eng. J. Med.* 271:473-474 Aug. 27, 1964.
- : Ethics for clinical research. *Med. World News* 5:55 Sept. 11, 1964.
- (Editorial): "Judgment difficult." *New Eng. J. Med.* 269:479-480 Aug. 29, 1963.
- : Medical ethics: British unit offers guidelines for research involving human subjects. *Science* 145:1024-1025, 1082, 1084 Sept. 4, 1964.
- : World MD group: the NIH differs on ethical code. *Med. Tribune* 4:6 Dec. 23, 1963.
- C. the Sloan-Kettering case:
- Langer, E.: Human experimentation: cancer studies at Sloan-Kettering stir public debate on medical ethics. *Science* 143:551-553 Feb. 7, 1964.
- Guttentag, O. E.: Human experimentation. (correspondence) *Science* 145:768 Aug. 21, 1964.
- : Ethics of human experimentation. *Modern Med.* 32:38 ff. April 13, 1964.
- Mandel, E. E.: Experimentation and patients' rights. (correspondence) *Med. Tribune* 6:4-5 Oct. 9, 1965.
- D. the thymectomy case:
- Zollinger, R. N., Jr. et al.: (Thymectomy and skin homografts in children). *New Eng. J. Med.* 270:707-709 April 2, 1964; "value and propriety" of this study questioned by Waksman (Waksman, B. H.: Thymus experimentation — correspondence. *New Eng. J. Med.* 270:1018-1019 May 7, 1964); reply by Zollinger

- et al. (Ethics of thymus experimentation — correspondence. *New Eng. J. Med.* 270:1314 June 11, 1964.)
- E. drug testing—legislative restrictions and legal liability:
- Ladimer, I.: Experimentation; the newly enacted drug law makes it imperative that doctors heed the long-standing rule: "Experiment at your own peril." *New Medical Materia* 5:25 Jan. 1963.
- Schreiner, G. E.: Remember Savonarola! *Clin. Research* 11:261-262 Oct. 1963.
- Wasmuth, C. E.: Physician's liability when using new or experimental drugs. *Cleveland Clin. Quart.* 31:61-73 April 1964.
- (Editorial): Judgment difficult. *New Eng. J. Med.* 269:1383-1384 Dec. 19, 1963.
- Friend, D. G.: Clinical evaluation of drugs; prevention and control of adverse reactions. *J.A.M.A.* 187:348-351 Feb. 1, 1964.
- Boyer, F.: Medical liability in drug trials. *New Eng. J. Med.* 270:777-778 April 9, 1964.
- : Drug use does not lend itself to dogma. *J.A.M.A.* 188:A37-A38 May 4, 1964.
- Dowling, H. F.: Responsibility for testing drugs in humans. *J.A.M.A.* 187:212-215 Jan. 18, 1964.
- Irwin, S.: Drug screening and evaluative procedures. Current approaches do not provide the information needed for properly predicting drug effects in man. *Science* 136:123-128 April 13, 1962.
- Page, I. H.: The physician as final arbiter? (editorial) *Modern Med.* 32:85-89 Feb. 17, 1964.
- F. use of volunteers:
- Jacox, R. F.: A critical dissent.
- (correspondence) *Clin. Research* 12:146 Jan. 1964. (The basis of a study of metabolic balance during experimental tularemia in humans is the use of volunteers who were exposed to an aerosol of *T. tularensis*; in the opinion of the correspondent, "the risk of exposure to such dangerous infections . . . exceeds the benefits of morality; and the editors should not condone publication of such material.")
- Jacobs, H.: Hazard in clinical investigation. (correspondence) *New Eng. J. Med.* 273:1341 Dec. 9, 1965. (Recent study reported in the *England Journal of Medicine* concerned the administration of an agent in an attempt to demonstrate an elevation of the prothrombin time. This raises the question of how much risk a patient should be deliberately exposed to in the course of clinical investigation. "Although patients may, of necessity, be uncomfortable to some degree during a research procedure, it is never justified to risk their lives.")
- Hursh, J. B.: Body content of thorium 232 daughters after Thorotrast injection. *Brit. J. Radiol.* 38:776-784 Oct. 1965. (Because of the known late incidence of sarcoma following Thorotrast injection, only elderly volunteers were employed in this study.)
- G. general considerations:
- Freund, P. A.: Ethical problems in human experimentation. *New Eng. J. Med.* 273:687-692 Sept. 23, 1965.
- (Editorial): Freund on human experimentation. *New Eng. J. Med.* 273:714-715 Sept. 23, 1965.
- : Problems of informed consent may be unsolvable; difficult.

- ties entailed in ensuring that human volunteers are able to understand the risks of procedure. *Med. Tribune* 5:7, 16 Nov. 28, 1964.
- : The conscience of the physician and clinical research. *J.A.M.A.* 190:A-58 Nov. 30, 1964.
- Ladimer, Irving and Newman, Roger W.: *Clinical Investigation in Medicine: Legal, Ethical, and Moral Aspects: An Anthology and Bibliography.* Law-Medicine Research Institute, Boston University: Boston. 517 pp. 1963.
- Altschule, M. D.: Some moral issues in medical research. (editorial) *Medical Science* 15:112 June 1964.
- Sullivan, P. R.: Cursillo psychosis. *Am. J. Psychiat.* 122:101-102 July 1965.
- In two men, participation in a Cursillo apparently precipitated an acute psychosis. Remission was rapid. A Cursillo is an intense emotional experience from which a pathologically vulnerable individual may, as a protective mechanism, try to disassociate himself.
- Nicholas, J. R.: How a patient with cancer learns the diagnosis. *Am. Family Physician* 9:41-44 Sept. 1965.
- There is a general tendency to avoid telling the diagnosis and prognosis to a patient who has cancer. Patients are more knowledgeable about medical matters, however, than most physicians appreciate, and frequently learn the diagnosis from other patients or from the unconscious reactions and attitudes of doctors, nurses, family, or friends. When trying to decide whether or not to tell a cancer patient his diagnosis and prognosis the physician should consider the possibility that such information has already been learned indirectly.
- ADDITIONAL ITEMS of interest include the following:
- Vaughan, R. P. (S.J.): Psychotherapeutic abortion. *America* 113:436-438 Oct. 16, 1965. ("Scandinavian countries now allow abortions for certain psychological reasons. A bill to liberalize abortion laws in California was viewed by psychiatrists as the first step toward the same thing here.")
- Chesser, Dr. Eustace: *Unmarried Love.* McKay: New York. 177 pp. 1965. \$3.50. (Reviewed in *America* 113:417-419 Oct. 9, 1965 by F. Canavan.)
- : Gregor Mendel Centenary. *Catholic Med. Quart.* 18:96-99 Oct. 1965. (Pope Paul VI's message to the Prior General of the Order of St. Augustine.)
- Van Grunderbeek, R.: The scandal of the century: a duty to which Catholic doctors are indifferent. *Catholic Med. Quart.* 18:99-103 Oct. 1965. (Medical missions.)
- Dogliotti, A. M.: Moral dramas and dilemmas in the practice of surgery. *Bull. N. Y. Acad. Med.* 41:1107-1116 Nov. 1965.
- Chavez, I.: Professional ethics in medicine in our time. *J. Philippine Fed. Priv. Med. Pract.* 13:549-559 Aug. 1964.
- Lasagna, L.: The mind and morality of the doctor. I. The physician and the microcosm. *Yale J. Biol. Med.* 37:345-360 April 1965; II. The physician and the microcosm. *Yale J. Biol. Med.* 37:361-378 April 1965.
- : Neurologist urges caution on anovulatory drugs; one or more syndromes found in 34 users. *Med. Tribune* 6:3 Nov. 8, 1965.
- Knutson, D.: The declaration of Helsinki. *Lakartidningen* 62:1065-1066 April 7, 1965.
- : D. C. birth-control clinics operate at maximum capacity in first year. *Med. Tribune* 6:8 Nov. 8, 1965.

- Madigan, F. C. (S.J.): Problems of world population. *America* 113:524-526 Nov. 6, 1965 (report on the World Population Conference, Belgrade, Yugoslavia, Aug. 30 - Sept. 10, 1965).
- Pellegrino, E. D.: The dimensions of the medical intellect. *Pharos of A.O.A.* 28:120-124 Oct. 1965.
- : Overpopulation in Chile. *J.A.M.A.* 194:578 Nov. 1, 1965.
- Wolf, G. A., Jr.: The problem of dehumanizing patients. *Med. Tribune*, 6:15 Nov. 3, 1965. ("As professionals, some of us are more humane than others, but rather than dehumanizing the patient, we are moving in the direction of gaining more basic information about what, indeed, is humanity.")
- : Sterilization: fewer legal barriers than for abortion. *Med. Tribune* 6:12 Nov. 12, 1965.
- Lay, C. L.: Intrauterine contraceptive devices. *Am. J. Obstet. & Gynec.* 93:330-334 Oct. 1, 1965.
- Ng, Larry K. Y. and Mudd, Stuart: *The Population Crisis; Implications and Plans for Action*. Indiana University Press: Bloomington 364 pp. 1965 \$2.95 (reviewed by M. D. Altshule in *Arch. Int. Med.* 116:801-802 Nov. 1965).
- : Legal abortion pattern shows socioeconomic bias. *Med. World News* 6:39 Aug. 27, 1965.
- (Editorial): Willing one's body. *J.A.M.A.* 194:824-825 Nov. 15, 1965 ("It is also important to note that spokesmen for the Protestant, Catholic and Jewish faiths have indicated approval of the principle of donation of one's body for the promotion of anatomic science").
- Smolkin, R. D.: Primary carcinoma of the ovary co-existing with pregnancy: case report with 11-year follow-up. *Am. J. Obstet. & Gynec.* 121-124 March 1965.
- : Heart graft may pose legal problems. *Med. World News* 6:41 Aug. 27, 1965.
- Giertz, G.: Etik och klinisk forskning. *Läk. Tidningen* 62:838-847 March 1, 1965. (Medical ethics and clinical research.)
- Martin, D. et al.: The relationship between religious behavior and concern about death. *J. Soc. Psychol.* 65:317-321 April 1965.
- Nelson, E.: Medicine and religion: the physical and reality therapy. *Minnesota Med.* 48:1085-1086 Aug. 1965.
- Kosonen, T.: Uskonto ja lääketiede. *Suom. Lääk.* 20:678-680 April 1, 1965 (Religion and medicine).
- Schaller, J.: L'étroite couture de l'esprit et du corps. *Laval Med.* 36:95-103 Jan. 1965 (Narrow division of the body and spirit).
- Kosonen, T.: Lääksinginjulistus. *Suom. Laak.* 26:1172-1175 June 1, 1965 (The Helsinki declaration).
- Kautzky, A.: Ärztliche Wahrheitspflicht und Eüge. *Med. Welt* 20:1130-1134 May 15, 1965 (Medical responsibility for truth and falsehoods).
- Mähler, G.: Heilauftrag und ärztliche Aufklärungspflicht. *München Med. Wschr.* 107:680-683 April 2, 1965 (The physician's duty to inform the patient who requested his services).
- Biorck, G.: Liv och död — medicinskt, juridiskt och etiskt. *Läkartidningen* 62:901-913 March 24, 1965 (Life and death — from the viewpoint of medicine, jurisprudence and ethics).
- : New surgery may make a vas deferens; "reversible vasectomy" could simplify birth control. *Med. World News* 6:73 Oct. 29, 1965.
- Editorial: Papal statement on birth control. *America* 113:558-559 Nov. 11, 1965.
- Page, D. J.: Living philosophy — evolution as a parameter of existence. *Pharos A.O.A.* 28:125-135 Oct. 1965.
- Lehfeldt, H.: The first five years of contraceptive service in a municipal hospital. *Am. J. Obstet. & Gynec.* 93:727-733 Nov. 1, 1965.
- Fish, S. A.: Continuing problems of artificial insemination. *Postgrad. Med.* 38:415-420 Oct. 1965.
- Calderone, Mary S.: The practicing physician, the community, and the question of moralities. *Postgrad. Med.* 38:A-140 ff. Oct. 1965. (Dr. Calderone is Executive Director of SIECUS, Sex Information and Education Council of the United States, Inc.)
- (Editorial): Progress in planned parenthood. *New Eng. J. Med.* 273:271-278 July 29, 1965.
- McCormick, R. A. (S.J.): Abortion. *America* 112:877-881 June 1965. ("The genuinely human stand on this question is one that protects all human life.")
- : Birth control: Academy report stresses burdens of high birth rate among the impoverished here. *Science* 148:1205 ff. May 28, 1965.
- Goldfarb, A. F.: The effects of long-term use of estrogen-progestin combinations. *Medical Science* 16:78-82 Aug. 1965.
- Dennis, L. H. and Stein, S.: Busulfan in pregnancy: report of a case. *J.A.M.A.* 192:715-716 May 24, 1965. (A normal infant was born of a woman who had received busulfan during the first trimester for treatment of chronic myelogenous leukemia.)
- Howland, E. S.: Psychiatry's responsibility to medicine and to religion. *Bull. Johns Hopkins Hosp.* 117:137-139 Sept. 1965.
- : Family Planning programs advance in India. *J.A.M.A.* 194:691 Nov. 8, 1965.
- Shakow, D.: Ethics for a scientific age: some moral aspects of psychoanalysis. *Psychoanal. Rev.* 52:335-348 Fall 1965.
- Dice, L. R. et al.: Relation of fertility to religious affiliation and to church attendance in Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1951-54. *Eugen. Quart.* 12:102-111 June 1965.
- Riabushkin, N. V.: Sovremennoe bogoslovie i meditsina. *Sovet. Zdravookhr.* 24:41-45 1965 (Modern theology and medicine).
- Aspinwall, R.: What is a person? *J. Amer. Geriatr. Soc.* 13:723-737 Aug. 1965.
- Butler, N. R. et al.: Persistence of rubella antibody with and without embryopathy; a follow-up study of children exposed to maternal rubella. *Brit. Med. J.* 2:1027-1029 Oct. 30, 1965.
- Curran, W. J.: Law-medicine notes: More on privacy and birth control. *New Eng. J. Med.* 273:1267-1268 Dec. 2, 1965.
- : FDA asks eye warning on oral contraceptives. *Med. World News* 6:107 Dec. 3, 1965.
- Ringrose, C. A. D.: Sociologic and personal effects of oral contraceptives. *Canadian Med. Assoc. J.* 92:1207 June 5, 1965.
- Larsson-Cohn, U.: Oral contraception and liver function tests. *Brit. Med. J.* 1:1414 May 29, 1965.
- : Family planning lag stirs experts' concern; access to information is termed a crucial need. *Med. World News* 6:198 Dec. 3, 1965.
- (Editorial): Religion and medicine. *Brit. Med. J.* 2:1138-1139 Nov. 13, 1965. (Discusses the Institute of

- Religion and Medicine, formally constituted in June 1964; address of Organizing Secretary: 58a Wimpole St., London, W.1.)
- Szasz, T. S.: *The Ethics of Psychoanalysis: The Theory and Method of Autonomous Psychotherapy*. Basic Books; New York. 1965. \$5.50 (reviewed by C. D. Aring in *Arch. Int. Med.* 116:953-954 Dec. 1965).
- Gable, J. J., Jr. and Munnell, E. R.: The internist and mitral stenosis in pregnancy. *Arch. Int. Med.* 116: 907-910 Dec. 1965.
- : Board to study abortion policy. *AMA News* 8:1, 10 Dec. 13, 1965.
- : House (AMA House of Delegates) spurns a proposal to loosen abortion laws. *Med. Tribune* 6:1, 10 Dec. 13, 1965.
- : AMA defers new stand on abortion. *Med. World News* 6:8081 Dec. 17, 1965.
- Gracias, H. E. Valerian Cardinal: On planned parenthood. *Med. Forum* 8:161-166 July-Sept. 1965.
- Masse, B. L. (S.J.): The AMA and the Catholic press. *America* 113: 583-588 Nov. 13, 1965. ("Why has the American Medical Association, which makes a most important contribution to this country's welfare, received little support from the Catholic press in its stand on Medicare?")
- Powell, L. C., Jr., Guest, M. M. and Bond, T. P.: Coagulation and fibrinolytic studies in women receiving an anovulatory drug (medroxyprogesterone acetate with estradiol). *Am. J. Obstet. & Gynec.* 93:167-172 Sept. 15, 1965.
- Revelle, R.: The problem of people. "Can man domesticate himself?" *Harvard T. Mag.* pp. 2-9 Autumn 1965.
- Margulis, R. et al.: Progestational agents and blood coagulation. *Am. J. Obstet. & Gynec.* 93:161-166 Sept. 15, 1965.
- Waddington, H.: *The Ethical Animal*. Allen Lane and Unwin: London. 1960. 238 pp. 25s. (reviewed by T. Dobzhansky in *Science* 133:323-324 Feb. 3, 1961).
- Frankl, Viktor E.: *The Doctor and the Soul: From Psychotherapy to Logotherapy*. A. Knopf: New York. 1965. 288 pp. \$5.95 (reviewed by Marjorie Meehan in *J.A.M.A.* 194:1261 Jan. 13, 1965).
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- (Editorial): Galenus (1509-1553) condemned heretics. *J.A.M.A.* 194:1243-1244 Dec. 14, 1965.
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- Gebhard, Paul H., Gagnon, John H., Pomeroy, Wardell B., and Christenson, Cornelia V.: *Sex Offenders*. Hoeber-Harper: New York. 1965. 944 pp. \$12.50 (reviewed by Morris Fishbein in *Med. World News* 6:72 July 30, 1965).
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